

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method of manufacturing a structure body, comprising the steps of:

abutting an end portion of a first plate and an end portion of a second plate, thereby providing an abutted portion, said end portion of said first plate having a raised portion which projects in a thickness direction of said first plate;

under a condition where a rotary tool is inserted from a side of said raised portion to said abutted portion, carrying out a friction stir welding of said abutted portion, thereby forming a welded body; and

after carrying out said friction stir welding, manufacturing said structure body by positioning a side face of said welded body, opposite to a face of the first plate having said raised portion, as an outer face of said structure body.

2. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a structure body according to claim 1, wherein:

under a condition where a ~~bed backing member~~ is positioned adjacent said abutted portion, carrying out said friction stir welding of said abutted portion; and

carrying out the friction stir welding to form substantially flat a face of a side of said structure body adjacent said ~~bed backing member~~.

3. (Original) A method of manufacturing a structure body according to claim 1, wherein carrying out the friction stir welding includes mounting a face of said

abutted portion, opposite to a face of the first plate having the raised portion, on a flat bed.

4. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a railway car vehicle, comprising the steps of:

abutting an end portion of a first plate and an end portion of a second plate, thereby providing an abutted portion, said end portion of said first plate having a raised portion which projects in a thickness direction of said first plate;

under a condition where a rotary tool is inserted from a side of said raised portion to said abutted portion, carrying out a friction stir welding to said abutted portion, thereby forming a welded body; and

after carrying out the friction stir welding, manufacturing said railway car vehicle by positioning a side face of said welded body, opposite to a face of the first plate having said raised portion, as an outer face of said railway car vehicle.

5. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a railway car vehicle according to claim 4, wherein:

under a condition where a ~~bed backing member~~ is positioned adjacent said abutted portion, carrying out said friction stir welding of said abutted portion; and

carrying out the friction stir welding to form substantially flat a face of said railway car vehicle adjacent said ~~bed backing member~~.

6. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a railway car vehicle according to claim 5, wherein said carrying out the friction stir welding includes mounting a face of said abutted portion, opposite to a face of the first plate having

the raised portion, on a flat bed.

7. (Currently amended) A structure body, comprising:

a first plate and a second plate, welded from one side, at a welding portion, in a thickness direction, by friction stir welding,

a raised portion connected to said welding portion at said one side and projecting to said one side of said first plate,

a face of a side of said welding portion opposed to said one side is formed substantially flat by the friction stir welding, and

said face of said side opposed to said one side is arranged as an outer surface face of said structure body.

8. (Currently amended) A railway car vehicle, comprising:

a first plate and a second plate welded from one side, at a welding portion, in a thickness direction, by friction stir welding,

a raised portion connected to said welding portion at said one side and projecting to said one side of said first plate,

a face of a side of said welding portion opposed to said one side is formed substantially flat by the friction stir welding, and

said face of said side opposed to said one side is arranged as an outer surface face of said railway car vehicle.